

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A thin-film magnetic head comprises a reproducing head and a recording head. The reproducing head comprises: a GMR element; a bottom shield layer and a top shield layer for shielding the GMR element; conductive layers connected to the GMR element; and shield gap films formed between the shield layers. Each of the shield gap films is made up of a plurality of thin alumina films stacked that are formed by performing the step of forming a thin alumina film by low pressure CVD, for example, a plurality of times.